

## UCI Countdown

52nd Fighter Wing  
Unit Compliance Inspection



- March 8 for GSUs: 52nd, 752nd and 852nd Munitions Support Squadrons
- March 15 for Spangdahlem Air Base

Let's show the USAFE Inspector General team  
why Team Eifel is the best!  
*Seek! Attack! Destroy!*

## News Briefs

### USAFE Annual Awards Banquet

The U.S. Air Forces in Europe's Annual Awards banquet takes place April 2 at 6 p.m. at the Ramstein Air Base, Germany, Officers' Club. Cost is \$23 for club members and \$26 for non-members. Purchase tickets from 52nd Fighter Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant Chris Kelly or unit first sergeants by March 25.

### Force shaping link

Members may now access the Air Force Personnel Center Force-Shaping Decision Tool link at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/shape.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/shape.htm). The tool is a matrix that helps determine which members are releaseable under the fiscal year 2004 force-shaping program. The matrix is updated weekly. People interested in transferring to the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard, or departing active service should apply under the force shaping program. Call the Air Force Contact Center at DSN 665-5000 for more information.

### Pass and registration information

The office is open Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m. to noon for walk-in vehicle transactions and 1-3:15 p.m. by appointments only for vehicle transactions. Service for IACS registration, out-processing, line badges, and shipping and junking privately-owned vehicles is available from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call Airman 1st Class Diana Esposito at 452-6695 for more information.

### Munitions storage closure

The munitions storage area is closed for all custodial-related actions from Monday through March 31 to conduct its semi-annual inventory. Only valid emergency requests approved by the applicable group commanders and submitted in accordance with applicable directives will be honored during this time. Call Master Sgt. Christopher Howell or Tech. Sgt. Thomas Hearl at 452-6743 for details.

### Hometown news

People who have been recently promoted, reenlisted, received an award, retired or arrived to Spangdahlem AB should fill out a Hometown News Release. Forms are available by accessing <http://intranet/52FW/Agencies/PA/documents/dd2266.pdf>. Fax completed forms to the 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office at 452-5254 for processing. Call public affairs at 452-6833 or visit <http://hn.afnews.af.mil> for more information.

### Spring cleaning

The 52nd Fighter Wing spring cleaning takes place Wednesday as part of the Combat Proud initiative. All wing members are encouraged to coordinate and participate. Time to shine!

## Go speed racer!

Calling all leadfoots -- check out indoor racing in Bitburg and Wittlich.

Read "Go carting at local tracks," on Page 8



# Eifel Times

Vol. 38, Issue 9

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

March 5, 2004



Airman First Class Joshua E. Coleman

### Extreme focus

A member of the emergency service team, name withheld, prepares to take aim on the suspect who attempted to take the 52nd Fight Wing commander, Col. Stephen P. Mueller, hostage during a full-spectrum threat response exercise here Feb. 26. The exercise simulated how the base would manage a real-world hostage situation and practiced precautionary and safety measures.

## Portal puts high-speed access to personal info at fingertips

### Airmen encouraged to register on Air Force services Web site

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON -- Air Force senior leaders have asked that all airmen sign up for a new Web-based technology that promises to streamline access to information across the force -- the Air Force Portal.

In a December information technology initiatives memo, Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. John P. Jumper asked that all airmen sign up for an Air Force Portal account as soon as possible.

"The Air Force Portal will be the airman's interface to all services and information needed to perform his or her job," the memo stated.

The portal is a Web-based system developed to incorporate as many Air Force information applications as possible. The result of such an integration is that systems such as the virtual military personnel flight or functional area applications, such as a munitions ordering or parts tracking system, would all be accessible from one Web site, said Lt. Col Dan Hausauer, portal integration division chief.

"The long-term vision is that the majority of applications and content will come through the Air Force Portal," Colonel Hausauer said. "Today there are hundreds of applications that are either accessible through the portal or are actually within the framework of the portal. In fact, the portal has the capability right now to house applications or to link to them on their current environment, wherever they are."

The key benefit to such an integration is the idea of a single user login. Once a user logs in, the portal itself authenticates a user into the application. This means that with each new application integrated into the portal, users will have one less Web address, login name and password to remember, Colonel Hausauer said.



Airman 1st Class Amaani Lyle

Senior Airman Lindsay Fox, 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office work group manager, accesses the new Web-based Air Force Portal. Airmen may register for access to the portal by logging onto the Web site at <https://www.my.af.mil> and clicking on the self-registration link.

"You can log into the portal with a single user name and password, and from there, these users can get to their applications without having to reauthenticate," Colonel Hausauer said. "Some users within the logistics community have told me that

See PORTAL, Page 2





Airman 1st Class Amaani Lyle

**Dynamic duo!**

Debbie and Col. Stephen P. Mueller, 52nd Fighter Wing commander, pause for a picture Wednesday at the wing staff meeting where they were informed they won the U.S. Air Forces in Europe-level General and Mrs. Jerome F. O'Malley award. The award recognizes those who epitomize high-caliber leadership, community involvement and spokespersonship. The couple's achievements include their role in the deployment of 45 percent of active-duty troops as U.S. Air Forces in Europe's most tasked wing. Colonel Mueller is lauded as the driving force behind the \$166 million Rhein-Main Transition Project. He also inspired the development of the Brick House, which the Secretary of the Air Force touted as a project that "should be Air Force-wide." Mrs. Mueller served as a military liaison to the American Red Cross through recruitment of volunteers and spearheaded what is now known as the Hidden Heroes working group. The couple also hosted the Spangdahlem Air Base 50th Anniversary in May, which showcased community history and traditions to more than 800 guests. The couple move up to compete at Air Force level.

## No DUIs but speed, ice patch cause of major vehicle crash

By Iain Lotan  
52nd Security Forces Squadron

Team Eifel members were involved in 45 car crashes in the past two weeks, five of which were classified as major accidents. Team Eifel members enjoyed two weekends free of driving-under-the-influence violations.

The first major smash occurred on B-50. A senior airman lost control of his vehicle after hitting a patch of ice and slammed into a guardrail. The vehicle was totaled. No injuries to report. Speed too fast for conditions caused the accident.

The second major crash occurred on B-50. A senior airman slammed on his brakes because the vehicle in front of him did the same. This caused the airman's car to skid into the on-coming traffic lane and into a government vehicle. There were no injuries, but extensive damage to the vehicles. Tailgating caused the accident.

Third major smash occurred in Niedermehlen. A civilian had a coughing attack and lost control of his vehicle, which caused his car to crash into a ditch. Minor injuries and disabling damage to the car occurred.

The fourth major crash occurred on B-50 when a senior airman stated she lost control of her vehicle and drove off the side of the road, which resulted in the vehicle rolling over. The vehicle was totaled and there were no apparent injuries.

The fifth major smash occurred on B-51 when a civilian crossed the centerline and struck another vehicle, due to weather conditions. The civilian's car then continued to spin out of control and struck another vehicle head-on. This accident led to a car pile-up. Polizei assumed the investigation.

Twenty-four minor crashes last week. Nine were from speed too fast for conditions; six from inattentive driving; one from wildlife; three from improper backing and five were caused by other people.

**Safety tidbit**

Speed too fast for conditions doesn't necessarily mean the driver was speeding. If a driver loses control of their vehicle at 5 mph on ice, the driver was traveling too fast for conditions. Speed is only one factor involved in an accident where traveling too fast for conditions is the cause. Weather, road, and terrain conditions can play a role in these factors.

## German road radar 'eyes' have it in moving violation deterrence

### Hi-tech photo system enforces law, puts crunch on autobahn speeders

By Iain Lotan  
52nd Security Forces Squadron Reports and Analysis

Lights! Camera! Action! New German technology is making the autobahns safer and drivers more accountable.

German traffic engineers have created and installed a sophisticated computerized observation system used to manage traffic along the Autobahns and urban highways. The complex system uses surveillance cameras, speed monitors and special electronic variable message signs.

Since the introduction of this system three years ago, research data shows a 30 percent reduction in accidents.

The system has two main functions: It displays text messages and traffic signs. Polizei use the text messages to warn drivers of potential road hazards such as weather and road conditions. The traffic signs aid Polizei enforcement German traffic laws, including speed limits.

In a majority of areas, the camera systems are equipped with photo radar that records vehicle speed, can help prove tailgating, that a driver was using a cell phone while driving, and if the people in the vehicle are wearing seatbelts.

Traffic violations, which are determined by the speed and the distance maintained between vehicles, can carry a one-



Courtesy photo

A vehicle driver and passenger can be seen in detail as photographed by the autobahn observation system.

month driving suspension in Germany. Tickets for speeding offenses vary from 40-150 euro.

Security Forces' Reports and Analysis and Investigations sections have analyzed the German tickets and identified several hot spots for wing members to avoid.

Polizei also conduct traffic controls in small towns. Law enforcement officers have issued tickets in Binsfeld and Badem as early as 7 a.m.

Observation systems are used on Autobahn A-60, in the direction of A-1 toward Trier. The speed limit at one point reduces to 60 kph.



Courtesy photo

Above, a tailgating vehicle, far right, is captured on film by the autobahn observation system. Traffic violations proven by the system can result in drivers' license suspension in Germany.

Other areas in which the system is used are:

- Hwy B-50, near Metterich
- Hwy B-257, between Bitburg and Erdorf
- L-46, near Zemmer and Rothaus
- Hwy B-51, between Bitburg and the Speicher turn off.
- Autobahn A-602, near the Kenn Wal-Mart area

## Portal

Continued from Page 1

in the past they've had more than 50 user names and password combinations, and now they need only one."

The logistics community has done the most to integrate their applications into the portal and to integrate the system into their own processes, Colonel Hausauer said. Besides logistics applications, other applications such as myPay and LeaveWeb are soon to follow.

A recent change to the portal makes it even easier for users to get access. Now, users can access the system from any Internet-connected computer at home, at work or on the road, Colonel Hausauer said.

When users are on temporary duty, the por-

tal makes it easy to stay in contact with co-workers at their permanent duty stations in real-time. The portal now includes an instant messaging system similar to those found on the dot-com side of the Internet. The Air Force Instant Messenger was used most recently during operations in Southwest Asia, Colonel Hausauer said.

"When the war kicked off, a lot of people on the front lines had difficulty getting to phone lines," Colonel Hausauer said. "People with network connectivity were using AFIM to do their job, like ordering mission-essential parts for aircraft or 'IMing' back to their home station in the United States to ask for assistance."

During those operations, AFIM had been set up to interface with commercial messaging

systems so deployed airmen could communicate with friends and family on their "buddy lists." That capability has been temporarily disabled, but Colonel Hausauer said it would return following a security review.

For every application that has already been assimilated into the portal framework, there may be many others that have not, Colonel Hausauer said. One way to expedite their integration is for those most familiar with those systems to speak up, and ask for them to be incorporated into the portal.

"A challenge for us is to get owners to come to us with their applications and to work with us to integrate them into the portal," Colonel Hausauer said. "We can make our security layer work for them, plus give them the benefit of the single user login. We also

look to users to insist upon having the applications they use brought to the portal."

Besides providing an integrated interface to existing Air Force applications, the portal provides functionality of its own. The portal includes a "white pages" section that lists everybody in the Air Force. The system even allows users to upload favorites from their desktop computers, so those frequently used Web addresses are available from anywhere in the world.

As more systems are brought into the portal, the Air Force moves closer to its overall vision for a Net-centric force.

"You will have the ability to access them all with one login name and password and you will be able to access them from anywhere," Colonel Hausauer said. "That is the future."





Master Sgt. Mary Phillips

**Staff Sgt. Christina Haupt, 52nd Medical Support Squadron diagnostic imaging journeyman, is this week's Top Saber Performer.**

Top Saber Performer

**Name:** Staff Sgt. Christina Haupt  
**Unit:** 52nd Medical Support Squadron  
**Duty title:** Diagnostic imaging journeyman  
**Hometown:** Asheville, NC  
**Years in service:** Four  
**Nominee's contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success:** Sergeant Haupt holds national certifications in both radiology and mammography from the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. She is the sole U.S. registered mammographer from Landstuhl northwest to the sea. Sergeant Haupt's mammography program has exceeded strict standards set forth by the American College of Radiology and the Food and Drug

Administration, resulting in continued services through re-accreditation. Additionally, Sergeant Haupt polishes her wartime skills by performing routine and emergency x-ray studies.  
**Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits:** I am a recorder and fundraiser for the 52nd Medical Group Morale Committee. I am pursuing upgrade to the 7-skill level, and associate of science degrees in radiology with the University of Maryland and CCAF.  
**What do you do for fun?** Sightseeing and enjoying the outdoors with my husband.  
**What do you like most about being stationed here?** The travel opportunities and the wonderful food.  
**What's one thing you'd like to see changed or improved at Spangdahlem AB?** I would like the Bitburg gym to be opened on the weekends and have longer hours throughout the week.

Captains trade bars for oak

The Air Force selected 2,540 captains for promotion to major. The entire list is posted on the Air Force Personnel Center's Web site at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil) Saturday.

Team Eifel congratulates the following 52nd Fighter Wing captains selected for promotion to major:

**Todd Alcott**, 52nd Munitions Support Squadron, Klein Brogel Air Base, Belgium; **Chad Balettie**, 81st Fighter Squadron; **Dylan Baumgartner**, 22nd Fighter Squadron; **Michael Beasley**, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; **Carolyn Pignataro**, 52nd Medical Operations Squadron; **John Bowers**, 52nd MDOS; **Paul Brezinski**, 470th Air Base Squadron, Geilenkirchen Air Base, Germany; **Kyle Brown**, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron; **Adrienne Clark**, 52nd MDOS; **Jason Cockrum**, 23rd Fighter Squadron; **Brant Folken**, 52nd Fighter Wing Manpower and Organization; **Michael Foutch**, 52nd Medical Support Squadron; **Kyle Gibson**, 52nd MDSS; **John Griffiths**, 752th MUNSS, Volkel Air Base, Netherlands; **Arianne Henry Kroll**, 52nd MDOS; **Michael Johnston**, 23rd FS; **Matthew Kaufmann**, 752nd MUNSS; **Christopher Kibble**, 23rd FS; **Adam Little**, 52nd CS; **Joseph Locke**, 23rd FS; **Daniel Manning**, 81st FS; **Brian Murphy**, 81st FS; **Jose Rivera-Hernand**, 52nd CES; **Ronald Ruppel**, 52nd FW/ME; **Robert Russ**, 52nd OSS; **Jonathan Shultz**, 23rd FS; **Ivette Sterling**, 52nd MDOS; **Travis Swan**, 22nd FS; **Bryan Tash**, 52nd FW Safety Office; **Reginald Trujillo**, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Ilaina Wingler**, 52nd MDOS; **Brenda Yi**, 52nd MDG; **Milad Youssef**, 606th ACS. (Staff reports)

IEA Scorecard

Project	Coordinator	Percent complete	Estimated completion
Brick House	Eddy Mentzer	100	Complete
Jet Blast Inn AFN decoder	Tech. Sgt. Sean Applegate	100	Complete
Honor Guard uniforms	Tech. Sgt. Randall Reno	100	Complete
Billeting laptops	Master Sgt. Fred Ayers	100	Complete
Loaner transformers	Gertrude Cochran	100	Complete
Coffee Mill improvements	Capt. Glenn Gresham	100	Complete
Bus shelter improvements	Tech. Sgt. Michael Smith	100	Complete
HAS mezzanine	Master Sgt. John Murphy	100	Complete
Batting cages	Juergen Stockemer	70	March 31
HAS crew shacks	Tech. Sgt. John Murphy	80	March 31
Pavilion improvements	Udo Stuermer	15	July

(Editor's note: The "Installation Excellence Award Scorecard" tracks the progress of 52nd Fighter Wing improvements set into motion this past year. Funds for the improvements come from winning the 2002 and 2003 Commander-in-Chief Installation Excellence competition at U.S. Air Forces in Europe-level, which is \$500,000 for each win.)

Eifel Salutes

52nd Mission Support Group

No red flags were raised thanks to the expertise of **Staff Sgt. Andrea Gibson**, who coordinated the 22nd Fighter Squadron's Red Flag deployment and ensured accurate processing of 206 passengers and 58 tons of cargo. Read all about **Tech. Sgt. Maurice Reid**, who led his team by flawlessly processing more than 300 mobility bags for Team Eifel members to deploy in support of AEF 7/8. **Airman 1st Class Ryan Lee** is in tip-top physical condition as the 52nd Communications Squadron's top fitness performer for the month of January with an overall score of 94.9. They got game ... congrats to **Geilenkirchen**, 2004 Intramural Basketball champs and **CES-A**, runners up!

52nd Maintenance Group

Check out these Career Development Course superstars with scores of 90 percent or better: **Airman 1st Class Mayo Moya**, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 90; **Airman 1st Class Troy Heberholz**, 52nd AMXS, 93; **Staff Sgt. Patrick Goupil**, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron, 91; **Staff Sgt. Clyde Garnett**, 52nd Maintenance Operations Squadron, 91.

52nd Operations Group

Clear skies for the **52nd Operations Support Squadron combat weather team**, who simultaneously got an "outstanding" rating during the U.S. Air Forces in Europe weather evaluation inspection and an "excellent" rating during the air traffic systems evaluation. The



Hawks salute **Staff Sgt. Karen Silcott**, who decked the 23rd Fighter Squadron's halls by cropping and enlarging more than 50 photos of Fightin' Hawks personnel at work and play. A feather in the cap of **Capt. Jesse Friedel**, who has been teaching academics, put together the 23rd's training plan, built the squadron's Turkey Shoot and filled in as the

C-flight commander.

52nd Medical Group

**Pamela Salvio** gets the "bad mamma jamma" salute for recently being selected as the wing's undisputed junior-level civilian of the year. **Staff Sgt. Dawn Robb** and **Senior Airman Travis Kohlhoff** kept on truckin' to work with Ramstein Medical Logistics personnel and coordinated a shipment of lab reagents to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, thus preventing a work stoppage.

Eifel community

Bitburg Middle School students recently shined in a national math coaching competition program. A big salute goes out to the members of the winning team: **Kai Pope**, **Jessica Greenough**, **Nicholas Buchholz** and **Michelle Reese**. BHS also sent an exhibition team to the competition. The team members were: **Erika Hofelich**, **Nigel Behrens**, **Brandy Williams** and **Mark Bintz**.

*Kudos to all; Team Eifel salutes you!*

(Compiled by Airman 1st Class Amaani Lyle, 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office)



Staff Sgt. Karen Z. Silcott

**Members of the 52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron Flight Medicine Flight make up this week's Top Saber Team.**

Top Saber Team

**Unit name:** 52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron Flight Medicine Flight  
**A brief description of unit responsibilities:** The flight provides medical care to nearly 1,500 active duty and family members and performs annual preventive health assessments. Flight surgeons are the key players in aircrew and high-risk occupational work areas. The squadron medical element consists of a flight surgeon and two medical technicians assigned to a flying squadron. Currently SME packages are assigned to each of the three flying squadrons and ready to deploy. While in garrison, these SMEs provide medical support to the squadron.  
**Number of members:** 19 active duty, one American Red Cross volunteer  
**Team's latest contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success:** Flight medicine has dedicated more than 450 man-hours to the review of 1,320 active duty members world wide qualifications. The team updated the preventive health assessment and individual readiness database, which increased the wing's compliance rate and enhanced overall combat readiness. They also provide quality health care for up to 40 patients per day.  
**Team's other contributions throughout the year:** The 23rd FS SME provided medical care to more than 200 members while deployed to Zaragoza AB, Spain. They assured the health and safety of support personnel and aircrew who flew 175 training sorties. During a recent deployment to Afghanistan the 81st FS SME provided top medical care to over 540 deployed members. They assure the health and safety of support personnel and aircrew that flew 1,473 combat sorties totaling 4,543 combat hours. The clinic also boasts the 52nd Medical Group Senior NCO of the Quarter and the American Red Cross Volunteer of the Quarter.



# Leaders call for resurge in suicide-prevention efforts

By G.W. Pomeroy

Air Force Surgeon General Public Affairs

**WASHINGTON** -- Eleven active-duty suicides took place Jan. 1 and 14 during the final quarter of 2003. To prevent additional attempts, Air Force senior leaders across the services have energized suicide prevention efforts at all levels.

The 2003 calendar-year suicide rate of 10.5 per 100,000 people was the lowest of all the military services and one-half the rate of a comparable civilian population of males ages of 20-50. As of Feb. 24, the service's suicide rate was 18.1. In a letter sent to all major commands, the Air Force's acting assistant vice chief of staff urges all airmen to continue pitching in to reduce the number of suicides.

"Suicide is not stopped by medical personnel in emergency rooms; it is stopped by addressing quality-of-life issues in the unit on a daily basis," Lt. Gen. Richard E. Brown III wrote in the letter.

"The major components of the Air Force Suicide Prevention Program are active leadership involvement, an emphasis on community involvement and a focus on prevention throughout the life of airmen and their families, not just when they are suicidal," General Brown wrote.

"Pay special attention to the quality of your suicide-prevention briefings," the general wrote.

The Air Force requires active-duty and civilian members to attend suicide-prevention briefings once during the 15-month air and space expeditionary force cycle.

In light of the recent suicides -- none of which occurred during operations Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom -- General Brown urged commanders to "review how well we continue to implement the 11 initiatives that serve as the foundation of the Air Force Suicide Prevention Program."

The 11 initiatives are outlined in Air Force Pamphlet 44-

## For more information

♦ "The Air Force Guide for Managing Suicidal Behavior: Strategies, Resources and Tools," an 88-page clinical guide designed to assist mental-health professionals in assessing and managing high-risk behavior.

♦ The Air Force Suicide Prevention Web site at <https://www.afms.mil/afspp>. The site is geared toward improving access to suicide prevention information and materials.

♦ The 2003 Community Suicide Prevention Briefing, a new multimedia briefing that includes slides and video.

♦ The 2003 Leadership Suicide Prevention Briefing, a new multimedia briefing involving slides and video. This is geared toward wing, group and squadron commanders.

For more information, call the 52nd Medical Group Life Skills office at 452-8285 or 52nd Fighter Wing Chaplain Services at 452-6711.

160, "Air Force Suicide Prevention Program: Description of Program Initiatives and Outcomes."

They are: build community awareness, leadership involvement, investigative interview policy, professional military education, epidemiological database, delivery of community preventive services, community education and training, critical incident stress management, integrated delivery system, limited patient-psychotherapist privilege, and unit risk-factor assessment. Air Force leaders take a community approach in suicide prevention, encouraging every airman to take responsibility in reducing the number of suicides.

A key element of the program is to make a steady pipeline of suicide-prevention tools available for Air Force people at all

levels. So far in 2004, the Air Force Medical Service has issued the 2004 Leader's Guide for Managing Personnel in Distress, which is geared to help commanders, first sergeants and other leaders recognize when their people are distressed and learn how to respond appropriately. It helps commanders link their people to resources and get them help as soon as possible.

The guide presents information on 35 distressing situations, checklists detailing potential behaviors or signs reflective of a person's reaction to the distressing event, and responses or resources leaders may want to use in responding to a person's needs. It was distributed on CD-ROM to every squadron commander and first sergeant in the Air Force. (Air Force Print News)

## Singles experience same anxiety as married troops when deploying

Story and photo by

Airman 1st Class Amaani Lyle  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

The freedom often associated with the status "single, no dependents" doesn't seem as enviable when it's sudden-time to deploy.



Deployment issues and coping strategies are often targeted at those with spouses or children. Single members often suffer the same types of stress, at times intensified by the lack of an immediate support group, said Capt. Arianne Henry, 52nd Medical Group Educational Developmental Intervention Services clinical social worker. The stress of co-workers' pending deployments can leave those left behind to pick up the slack, and those who are in line to deploy unfocused on their present work.

"We tend to focus on the deployed people who are leaving their family," said Capt. Henry. "Single people who are leaving their life behind don't necessarily have people to take care of the things that those people with family would. They don't have spouses to pay the bills or take their cars to the shop. They have to tie up the loose ends by themselves."

When asked how single deployed wing members should offset some of the stress associated with the move, Capt. Henry's answer was simple: "Prepare, prepare, prepare."

Capt. Henry said making lists of things you would need to do before you leave is vital in not getting mentally overwhelmed when the time comes to depart.

The following singles deployment checklist contains suggestions from the LIFELines Services Network, a Web site designed to provide information related to military matters at [www.lifelines.navy.mil](http://www.lifelines.navy.mil).

### Singles deployment checklist

**Vehicle storage:** The only authorized long-term parking area on Spangdahlem Air Base is near the softball fields. Also, check vehicle registration expiration dates



**Airman Jose Obregon, 52nd Medical Operations Squadron medical technician, administers a final immunization to Senior Airman Sean Neill, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron structures journeyman, Feb. 13. Airman Neill was among 150 troops at the personnel deployment function line who were prepped for deployment in this month.**

and renew registrations before deploying.

**Power of attorney:** Deploying members must decide whether or not they need a power of attorney.

**Service records:** Complete Web-based emergency data cards by visiting the Air Force Personnel Center Web site at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil). Select the "vMPF" logo at the top of the page. Also, review all other deployment records to ensure data is correct.

**Wills:** Visit the base legal office to have a will drawn up or updated before deploying.

**Bill payment:** Set up pay allotments to automatically pay rent and electric bills through the banks on base. Call Bill Triplett, base personal financial counselor, at 452-6141 for more information.

**Family:** Ensure family members have the command address where you can be reached.

For more information on deployment counseling, call the family support center at 452-6422 or 06565-61-6422.

## Team Eifel gets more cable viewing options

By Maj. Melinda Morgan

52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Getting Armed Forces Network hook up after moving to Spangdahlem Air Base can be complicated. However, with a bit of guidance, being able to relax and watch AFN programming is simple.

Receiving AFN is challenging because of the way it is received in each area. These tips provide the three possible Eifel region options.

♦ Cable television through TKS: Starting this month, Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex Military Family Housing and dormitories get free service for the seven AFN decoder channels and commanders' channels. The only requirement is to purchase the cable that goes from the cable outlet to the television.

Residents can get additional channels through TKS cable which currently cost about 35 euro monthly. TKS cable has customer service outlets at both base exchanges.

♦ Speicher Government-Leased Housing: TKS provides basic television services (without the movie channel) for about 24 euro monthly plus installation charges. Installation costs extra because the infrastructure for CATV is limited at Speicher and cannot support the options listed above.

♦ Binsfield GLH and off-base housing: There are several options because the TKS cable television infrastructure isn't available at these locations.

Residents can purchase an AFN Decoder for the seven AFN channels mentioned above. The base exchange sells the decoder for about \$565 and a dish for about \$100. Installation must be done personally or by hiring a service, which costs about \$150. AAFES maintains a list of contractors who provide this service. Another option is to lease the decoder from AAFES for \$25 a month, but the dish still requires installation.

Team Eifel members can register for SKY Television Service at the Eifel Spotlight. Cost for the dish and receiver is about \$600, plus contractor installation costs ranging \$100-\$150. The monthly service charge varies according to the package purchased.

Another option for off-base residents and some housing residents is to opt for the single AFN local channel broadcast from the Bitburg Annex. The signal is limited to the Bitburg and Spangdahlem area. The signal doesn't reach into the valley of Dudeldorf and fades to the east of Binsfield.



# Officials continue ironing out vOP wrinkles

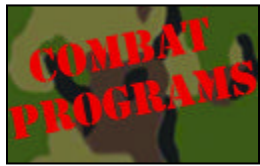
By Maj. Rickey Harrington  
U.S. Air Forces in Europe Force Management Branch

**RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany** -- The end of an overseas tour is rapidly approaching and a member receives the good news that they've received their desired next assignment. The first step is to develop a permanent-change-of-station plan that starts with prioritizing which tasks to do first from the military personnel flight and commander's support staff out-processing checklists.

At this point, a member may reflect on the last move and begin to cringe at the frustration felt trying to get everything done in time. Running around base from one agency to the next, like the library or outdoor recreation, just to get the checklist signed off is indeed a hassle -- especially if a member has never checked out a book or any equipment their entire time on base.

Some people may remember reading about the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Commander's Combat Exit initiative in the base paper and how the process has been streamlined. The MPF explains that due to Combat Exit and the Air Force's virtual outprocessing, or vOP initiative, outprocessing is no longer as frustrating or time-consuming as it once was. For many this is a relief to hear and thanks to technological advancements, expectations for outprocessing change instantly.

Many people believe that since outprocessing is "virtual," all outprocessing requirements from offices or work centers can be met without ever physically going to any base agencies ... not quite.



**Senior Airman Marie Collins, a 52nd Dental Squadron dental assistant who moved to Spangdahlem Air Base in November begins inprocessing with the Combat Intro/Exit program. When Airman Collins is ready to PCS to her next assignment she will likely use the virtual outprocessing initiative that's designed to streamline outprocessing requirements and simplify military moves.**

Every USAFE base has implemented vOP and made tremendous strides to streamline outprocessing requirements. But "virtual" does not mean that everything can be done from the comfort of home. Through Combat Exit and vOP, those annoying stops to agencies in which there has been no interaction will be accomplished without physically visiting the agency.

The virtual outprocessing program is simply a database managed by the MPF relocations section that allows base agencies to identify only those personnel needed to be seen before leaving the base for a PCS, separation or retirement. The vOP program benefits both the member and the agency by reducing the outprocessing workload.

In fact, we anticipate that the average number of agencies the typical member will visit for outprocessing will drop 60 percent or more. One base has already reported an initial reduction from 30 stops to less than 10.

Although vOP eliminates unnecessary stops, it may not eliminate the requirement to physically go to certain agencies such as the hospital for physicals for members going on consecutive overseas tours, the transportation management office to schedule flight departure and household goods pickup, vehicle deregistration and shipping, chemical gear turn-in, or housing.

At this point, there's just no getting around visiting some agencies on base to ensure all personal affairs are in order prior to moving.

Even though outprocessing is not yet totally "virtual," thanks to Combat Exit and vOP significant improvements have been made. Officials encourage Team Eifel members to complete the Combat Exit customer survey and suggest ways to enhance the outprocessing experience.

For more information, call the MPF relocations section out-bound assignments at 452-6817.

## Members 'make the grade' with professional education graduation

The 52nd Fighter Wing congratulates the following members who graduated Kisling NCO Academy Feb. 12 at Vogelweh Air Base, Germany:

**Tech. Sgts. Jon Thoms**, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; **Scotty Gifford**, 52nd AMXS; **Gerardo Garcia**, 52nd AMXS; **James Murphy Jr.**, 52nd AMXS; **Gary Brooks**, 52nd AMXS; **Berkley H. Asbury Jr.**, 52nd Communications Squadron; **Lenn Jensen Jr.**, 52nd CS; **Rodel Delacruz**, 52nd CS; **Nattaya Hammond**, 52nd Comptroller Squadron; **Michael Yetter**, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron; **David Nettles**, 52nd EMS; **Jason Martin**, 52nd EMS; **Anthony Hayden**, 52nd EMS; **Darrell Elliott**, 52nd Maintenance Group; **Anthony Lawrence**, 52nd Security Forces Squadron; **David Hogden**, 606th Air Control Squadron, and **Randy Nance**, 606th ACS. (Staff reports)

### ALS grads

**Senior Airman Jered Harris**, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron, received top honors from Airman Leadership School Class 04-3. During the Feb 11th graduation ceremony, the airman received the John L. Levitow award. **Senior Airman Matthew Palmer**, 52nd Component Maintenance Squadron, received the class academic achievement award. **Senior Airman David Dulaney**, 52nd Civil Engineering Squadron, received the leadership award. Distinguished graduates were **Senior Airmen Brandon Lanktree**, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; **Jeremy Baldwin**, 52nd AMXS; **Joe**



**Stafford**, 52nd EMXS, and **Dulaney**.

Other graduates were:

### Eagle Flight

**Senior Airman Lewis Jamime**, 52nd CMS; **Joanna Jones**, 52nd EMS; **Wylie Woods**, 752nd Munitions Support Squadron, Vokel AB, Netherlands; **Oneida Zapata**, 52nd Mission Support Squadron; **James Biaz**, 52nd Security Forces Squadron; **Jennifer Lotan**, 52nd Medical Operations Squadron; **Daniel Souza**, 52nd AMXS; **Kenneth Steinbrecher**, 852nd MUNSS, Buechel Air Base, Germany; **Jennifer Ivey**, 52nd Medical Operations Squadron; **Mike Alvarado**, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Eric Albers**, 52nd AMXS; **Margot Hubbard**, 52nd EMXS; **David Paul**, 52nd AMXS.

### Falcon Flight

**Staff Sgt. Gregory Granger**, 52nd CES; **Senior Airman Regina Hugh**, 606th Air Control Squadron; **Ming Theus**, 752nd MUNSS; **Brian Schleifer**, 606th ACS; **Angel Santana**, 52nd LRS; **Phillip Gabriel**, 52nd EMXS; **John Jablonske**, 52nd AMXS; **Maryanne Bebin**, 52nd

Operations Support Squadron; **Rodney Atkins**, 52nd CES; **Trevor Haney**, 752nd MUNSS; **Michelle Whitmore**, 52nd LRS; **Jason Rivera**, 52nd AMXS.

### Magic Flight

**Staff Sgt. Derek Garske**, 52nd Comptroller Squadron; **Sharella Bateman**, 52nd LRS; **Senior Airman Kawana Blandburg**, 81st Fighter Squadron; **Richard Serna**, 52nd Security Forces Squadron; **Adam Uptergrove**, 52nd AMXS; **Lindsay Fox**, 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office; **Jeffery Andrade II**, 852nd MUNSS; **Luke Conner**, 52nd LRS; **Andreana Watkins**, 52nd MUNSS, Kleine Brogel AB Belgium; **Reuben Jones**, 606th ACS; **Brett Antisdell**, 52nd Medical Group; **Eric McCann**, 52nd AMXS; **Joshua Taulbee**, 52nd CES.

### Warthog Flight

**Staff Sgt. George Wolfe VII**, 52nd Communications Squadron; **Senior Airman Jason Meuth**, 52nd AMXS; **Karmeko Cannon**, 852nd MUNSS; **Sol Diaz**, 52nd MSS; **Robert Matthews**, 52nd Medical Operations Squadron; **Joshua Runkel**, 52nd EMXS; **Scott Ruthkauskas**, 52nd CES; **Karilee Garber**, 52nd MDOS; **Frederick Nelson Jr.**, 606th ACS; **Famous Williams**, 52nd AMXS; **Kira Serna**, 52nd Services Squadron; **John Hernandez**, 52nd CES; **Joshua Jones**, 52nd AMXS; **Jeanette Stonecipher**, 52nd MUNSS; **Michael Merritt**, 52nd CES; **Joseph Ferrara**, 52nd CES; **Theresa Solano**, 52nd MSS. (By Staff Sgt. Jeremy M. Louk, Pitsenbarger Airman Leadership School)



Master Sgt. Harry Mausser

### STEP'in up

**Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Olney** gets news of his STEP promotion from **Col. Stephen Mueller**, 52nd Fighter Wing commander Feb. 26. The 52nd Maintenance Group aircraft structural maintenance shift leader received his technical sergeant stripes under the Stripes for Exceptional Performers program.



## Saturday Show

Hits from the '80s, '90s and today





## Community Mailbox

Submit "Community Mailbox" advertisements 10 days before the desired publication date to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil.



### Education center

♦ Today is the last day to register for Air Force spouse tuition assistance. Spouse TA pays up to \$300 a term for college classes offered by schools operating on base. Call the base education center at 452-6063 for more information.

♦ Early Term II class registration for deployed spouses takes place March 12. Spouses must wear deployed spouse button for easy identification.

### JAM! meeting

Just Airmen!, an organization for junior-ranking airmen, meets March 18 at 2 p.m. in the Brick House. Call Senior Airman Andrew Caulk at 452-5635 for more information.

### Knowledge tournament

The 2004 Odyssey of the Mind DODDS European Tournament takes place March 27 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Spangdahlem Elementary School. Winners compete at the finals in Maryland, Va. Call Judi Harvin at 452-6881 for more information.

### MSS spouses meeting

The 52nd Mission Support Squadron Spouses Group meets March 18 at 6 p.m. at the Eifel Lanes Bowling Center. Call Nichole Gonzalez at 06563-930561 by March 15 to make reservations.

### FILAM meeting

The Filipino American Association meets March 13 from 7-8 p.m. in the Spangdahlem AB Chapel. E-mail maryanne.reyes@spangdahlem.af.mil or Shirley Quevedo also on the global listing by March 8 to make reservations.

### Embry-Riddle class

A class on aviation law takes place March 26-April 25. Call the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University office at 452-7553 to register.

### Kindergarten registration

Early registration for kindergarten takes place at Bitburg Elementary School April 5-9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call Mary Marchand at 452-9215 for more information.

### Chapel library

The 52nd Fighter Wing Chaplain Services Resource Center is open Monday from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday from 1-4 p.m., and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### University of Oklahoma

Online internship and other class enrollment takes place now. Also, scholarships are available now through March 15. Call Allen Cannon at 452-6063 or e-mail ouspang@pjsnet.com for details.

### Parent seminars

Saturday seminars take place at Spangdahlem Elementary School March 20. Education, family support and family advocacy specialists, nurses, psychologists and others present a variety of information. Register at Eifel region Department of Defense Dependent Schools. Call Barbara Triplett at 452-6881 for more information.

### ARC volunteer luncheon

A luncheon honoring American Red Cross volunteers takes place Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at Peters restaurant, in the former Spangdahlem AB officer's club. Call Terri Perino at 452-9440 for more information.

### Community Bank

The Spangdahlem AB Community Bank branch is open from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday. The Bitburg Annex branch is open noon to 4 p.m. Thursday.

### Babysitter course

The American Red Cross babysitter course takes place March 13. Cost of \$25 includes tote bag, training guide handbook, flashlight, first aid kit, CPR guide and an emergency record card. Class attendees qualify to be added on the AMR-certified babysitters list available at the family support centers. Call Terri Perino at 452-9440 for details or to register.

Also, a volunteer orientation class takes place March 18 from 10 a.m. to noon. Call to register.

### Iron flight competition

Squadrons compete for the base fitness title March 12 at noon. Registration deadline is Wednesday. Each squadron must have five males and five females, including its commander or first sergeant. Scores are combined for the team score. Call 452-6496 for details.

### Base volksmarch

A St. Patrick's Day base volksmarch takes place March 13 at 10 a.m., starting at the Spangdahlem AB fitness center. Register at the center's front desk.

Also, the running track located behind the Spangdahlem AB fitness center is closed March 15 for resurfacing. Call 452-6496 for more information.

### Men's softball

Tryouts for men's softball takes place Saturday-Sunday and March 13-14 from 9-11 a.m. in the Spangdahlem AB gymnasium. Call Master Sgt. Chris Heffner at 452-6422 for more information.

### Lenten services

Lent is when Christians prepare themselves spiritually for Easter. Stations of the Cross take place each Friday through April 2 at 5:30 p.m. at the Bitburg Chapel and each Wednesday through March 31 at 5 p.m. at the Spangdahlem AB Chapel. Soup and bread dinners follow the services. Call the chapel office at 452-6711 for more information.

### Dinner theater

The dinner theater play, "Censored on Approach: Women Pilots of World War II" takes place March 12-13 and 19-20, starting at 5 p.m. in the Spangdahlem AB Community Activity Center. Cost is \$20 per person. Event features cocktails, dinner and a '40s swing dance and the show. Purchase tickets at the CAC.

### Pinewood derby

The Boy Scout Pinewood Derby takes place March 13 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Bitburg Annex Base Exchange parking lot. 52nd Security Forces Squadron members judge the races. Refreshments are available for purchase as the Pack 161 fundraiser.

## Brick House party

The following activities take place at the Brick House located in the CAC. Brick House offers free activities for members ages 16 and older. It's open daily from 4-8 p.m. for all ages, 4 to midnight Sunday-Thursday for ages 18 and older, and 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday-Saturday.

### Friday

□ Live DJ plays hit requests.

### Saturday

□ Sports night at 6 p.m.

### Sunday

□ NASCAR Las Vegas races start at 11:30 p.m.

### Monday

□ Movie madness at 6 p.m.

### Tuesday

□ Foosball tourney starts at 6 p.m. Entry fee is \$3; winner scores the entry fees.

### Wednesday



Many of the programs listed above are sponsored by Project CHEER: Creating Hope, Energy, Enthusiasm and Recreation, a U.S. Air Forces in Europe program.



## Skills development

The following events take place in Spangdahlem AB building 189, unless listed otherwise. Call Craft Corner at 452-4141 for the complete list of classes.

**Picture framing:** March 13 from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$25.

**Beginner quilting:** March 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$20.

**oil and acrylic painting:** March 16 and 23 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$35.



**Basic auto care:** March 17 from 5-6:30 p.m. Cost is \$10. Register at the auto skills center in building 189.

**Basket weaving:** March 18 from 5-10 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2012. Cost is \$25, plus \$15 for supplies.

**Intermediate watercolor painting:** March 18 and 25 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$25.

**Matt cutting:** March 20 from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$15.

**Tole painting:** March 25 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$12.

## Der Markt

### Free classifieds policy and submission deadlines

Der Markt is for the personal resale of items by military and civilian employees and their families. Items such as advertisements for rental property won't be published due to funded paper restraints. Ads should be 35 words or less and customers are limited to no more than two ads per week. Ads must be typed or printed legibly and turned into the public affairs office, building 23, at least **10 days before the desired date of publication**. Ads can also be e-mailed to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil or sent via fax to 452-5254. Having ads in by deadline does not guarantee publication. Ads for services generating regular income will not be published. The ads must include the sponsor's name and telephone number. Ads not meeting these requirements, including those exceeding the designated word limits, will not be printed. The Eifel Times staff reserves the right to edit ads.



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Maj. Melinda Morgan.....Public Affairs chief  
1st Lt. Gerardo Gonzalez.....PA deputy  
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Iris Reiff.....Leisure writer  
Senior Airman Lindsay Fox.....Technical assistant

Published by

Verlag & Druck

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Col. Stephen Mueller

Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a way to get answers to questions you still have after using your chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest will be published in the *Eifel Times* and may be edited or paraphrased for brevity or clarity. Submit your Direct Line via:

■DirectLine@spangdahlem.af.mil

■Mailed to 52nd FW/PA, Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE 09126

■To PA in building 23.

■Concerns may also be sent via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are accepted. To receive a personal response you must include your name and phone number. Call the Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more information.

February  
Sortie  
Scoreboard

Aircraft	Goal	Flown	Delta
F-16	377	365	-12
A-10	291	329	+38

\*Delta is contract vs. sorties flown to date.

Through Feb. 29

Courtesy of the  
52nd Operations Support Squadron  
Plans and Scheduling Section

# Viewpoint

March 5, 2004

Page 7

## Direct Lines

### Kudos

Question: would like to send my thanks to several members who responded to an emergency call at my Bitburg residence Jan 5.

My daughter thought there was a fire in our master bedroom because she saw steam coming from the doorway. I called the fire department and they responded immediately. It turns out a hot water pipe hose in our master bathroom had burst.

The bathroom and bedroom were flooded. The emergency responders quickly dried up the water, preventing damage to the government property and our personal items. The plumbers responded right away with professional courtesy to fix the broken hose.

They met a few setbacks, but still fixed the problem. They just wouldn't give up. They are a credit to the civil engineer squadron. Thank you Tech. Sgts. Michael Luzader, David Doerr, Neil Fultz, Staff Sgts. Steve Hays, Ronnie Collins, Senior Airman Clinton

and civilians Hans-Juergen Neyses, Robert Widowsky, Edmund Meier, Harry Heidgen and Michael Balter; your professionalism is truly appreciated!

Answer: Thank you for the note of a job well done. The civil engineer squadron takes pride in supporting the wing. It's just one of the many reasons they've recently been recognized as one of the top 3 large-unit CE squadrons in the Air Force! We will pass along your kudos to the members listed ... and thanks again!

### Sending Qs for As

Direct Lines is a way to get answers to questions after asking the chain of command.

Send questions or kudos for jobs well done to DirectLine@spangdahlem.af.mil

## Letter of appreciation



Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek

Lt. Col. Greg Hoffman, left, 52nd Maintenance Group deputy commander, presents retiring group commander Col. Susan Voveris a shadow box as a going away gift from unit troops.

Dear Team Eifel,

I'd like to pass my thanks to the entire Spangdahlem community for the help and support over the last six weeks. My family and I appreciated the cards, good thoughts and prayers as we dealt with my husband's illness. All the assistance accelerating and executing a very short notice retirement was a godsend. Special thanks to the men and women of the 52nd Maintenance Group -- I couldn't have done it without you. My best to all 52nd Fighter Wing personnel as they continue to surpass all Air Force expectations.

Thanks again!

See you sometime, someplace in the future.

Col. (Ret.) Susan Voveris

## Plain 'n simple

# Careers can ride on decision to drink

By Maj. Rob Gilchrest

52nd Component Maintenance Squadron commander

During the summer of 1999, a sharp senior airman with a bright future in the Air Force made a fateful decision that will forever impact his life.

On a Friday night, he and a friend decided to go out to one of the local establishments and have a few drinks. After a few hours of drinking, this senior airman made the decision to drive home.

While driving on the interstate, his vehicle struck another vehicle causing it to lose control and crash. The senior airman did not stop to render assistance or take responsibility. While all of this was happening, the friend was supposedly asleep in the passenger seat.

The occupants of the vehicle he struck were a married couple in their 50s from out of state. Fortunately, the husband escaped the accident with relatively minor injuries. The wife however, was not so fortunate. Her injuries were so severe she was not expected to survive.

In the meantime, the senior airman made it back to his dorm room. Several hours after the accident, the police were finally able to track him down. By now it was very early on Saturday morning. When the police showed up, this senior airman was almost "expecting" them. As he was read his rights and taken into custody, he broke down in tears. At that very moment, the magnitude of what he had done and the impact became a reality.

This senior airman was charged with DUI and fleeing the scene. Because the wife was expected to die, negligent or vehicular homicide charges were also pending. Fortunately, the wife did not

“ ... your first line of defense is to have a plan before you embark on a night of drinking. In other words, have a designated driver. Or set aside some money solely for cab fare. ”

die. But she did spend about a month in a local hospital before she was stable enough to be transported to a hospital in her home state. It was also understood that her injuries would likely affect her for the rest of her life.

Also noteworthy, this senior airman had been previously involved in another alcohol-related incident. Specifically, he was involved in a fight with another airman.

As a result of his crime, this senior airman spent six months in jail and received a bad conduct discharge from the Air Force. In addition, while in the hospital, the wife reached the catastrophic cap for her medical insurance and this senior airman was going to be held responsible for the remaining medical expenses. As he was headed to jail this figure was already a staggering \$12,000 and counting. At the time, the family of the woman had also expressed the intent to sue this senior airman, but I am unsure if they ever followed through.

In summary, this senior airman was a young man in his early 20s. He now has a DUI conviction, nearly killed a woman, spent six months in jail, received a bad conduct discharge from the Air Force, owes thousands of dollars in medical

expenses, and may have been sued. All of this happened because he made the decision to drink and drive. This is a ridiculously gross understatement, but a taxi would have been a lot cheaper both personally and professionally.

This wing has had a rash of DUIs in the past couple of months and every single one had the potential to end tragically. The sad part is that DUIs are easy to avoid yet we have individuals that choose to take that chance.

This wing has put forth a monumental effort to curb DUIs and reverse the trend. We have programs such as AADD and ride-for-life. We now also have the "Eifel Patrol," a uniformed presence in some of the local establishments to hopefully make people think twice about drinking and driving. Commanders and supervisors are constantly reminding their people to call a friend, co-workers, shop chiefs and others if they need a ride home.

Personally, I strongly believe your first line of defense is to have a plan before you embark on a night of drinking. In other words, have a designated driver. Or set aside some money solely for cab fare.

You've all heard this before ... time and again. You are all also aware of the checkpoints set up throughout the Eifel community designed to catch people driving under the influence. It's only a matter of time before you get caught. We can only pray that we catch you before you kill or seriously injure others who were doing the right thing.

The bottom line: Have a plan and, if you drink, don't drive. It's just that simple. Everyone must be part of the solution, not the problem.



## Movies

The following movie listings are for March 5-11. Times and movies are subject to change. For the most current information, call 452-9441 or 06565-61-9441. Movie synopses are available at [www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp](http://www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp).

### Bitburg Castle

Today

*Torque* (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

A motorcycle racer is framed for murder, and the most notorious biker gang and the FBI are after him.

Saturday

*Honey* (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

An up-and-coming choreographer moves to the inner-city to start a dance school.

Sunday

*Torque* (7 p.m.)

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

*Stuck on You* (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

Conjoined twins are cast on a television show starring Cher. However, the star is bummed about being relegated to TV until the show becomes a hit.

Thursday

*Honey* (7 p.m.)

### Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

*Paycheck* (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

Michael has his memory erased by his employer as a security precaution once he's completed special projects. After finishing his latest, he receives not his usual lucrative paycheck, but a mysterious envelope containing 19 items.

*The Butterfly Effect* (R, 10 p.m.)

Evan is an emotionally conflicted man dealing with suppressed childhood memories. He discovers a way to travel back in time, but differing his actions in the past has enormous ramifications for his future and present.

Saturday

*Mona Lisa Smile* (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

1953 America was a time ripe for change for women and when Katherine arrives to teach at Wellesley College, she finds the institution drowning in outdated mores.

*Something's Gotta Give* (PG-13, 10 p.m.)

Harry generally dates younger women. His world is turned upside-down when he has a heart attack and is left in the care of her mother, Erica and his doctor.

Sunday

*Mona Lisa Smile* (4 p.m.)

*The Butterfly Effect* (7 p.m.)

Monday

*Something's Gotta Give* (7 p.m.)

Tuesday

*Paycheck* (7 p.m.)

Closed Wednesday and Thursday



A local speeds by the Kart-Drom pits. The track is open daily for cart racing and birthday parties.

# Go carting at local tracks

## Motor-sport enthusiasts drive themselves crazy racing rides at 50 kpm

Story and photos by Iris Reiff  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Officer

There is little that can get the blood pumping faster than driving fast, and luckily for us the Bitburg Kart-Drom track offers fun and excitement for everybody at their home at the former Bitburg Flugplatz.

For those who would like to start a career as a Formula 1 driver, the Bitburg Kart-Drom is ideal -- an electronic timer registers driver success and shows it on screen and prints it out.

Cart racing is also for anyone who is simply interested in finding out what the sport is like. The carts at the track race at up to 50 kilometers per hour. The facility opened at the former Bitburg Flugplatz in December, 1995. It sports two tracks, a 280-meter indoor- and a 220-meter outdoor track that are both open to the public Monday through Friday at 10 a.m., Saturday at 1 p.m. and Sunday at 11 a.m. The indoor track is open year-round and the outdoor track opens in April.

The track is open to ages ten and older and who are in good physical condition. Children must be 1.45 meters (about 4-ft., 9-inches) tall.

Scarves and ties as well as wet or open shoes are not allowed when driving. Jeans or other comfortable clothes are recommended. The Bitburg Cart Team will give out suits on request to adults to protect their clothes from grease.

### Fees

Helmets are mandatory and will be issued free of charge. Masks are also required and may be rented for .50 euro with a 2 euro deposit.

Driving fees are 7 euro for children to age 13 and 9 euro for adults for eight minutes of driving time. Present a copy of this article to receive a 1 euro reduction discount.

According to the team, Americans are always welcome at Kart-Drom -- quite a few Spangdahlem members visit the track regularly. English is spoken and a small Imbiss and refreshment bar is available.

Kart-Drom may also be reserved for group parties.



A cart driver prepares to leave the Kart-Drom pit area. Children 10 and older and 4-ft., 9-inches tall qualify to drive at the go-carting facility.

For more information or to make a reservation, call 06561-942000 or fax your request to 06561-942002. Information in German can be obtained from the Kart-Drom's web page at [www.kartbahn-bitburg.de](http://www.kartbahn-bitburg.de). To get directions, click on Anfahrt -- a map will pop up.

The address for the track is Am Tower 4, located on the former Bitburg Flugplatz. There are signs posted throughout the Flugplatz area.

### Wittlich cart track

A 300 meter indoor cart track can also be found in Wittlich. Take the Autobahn from the base to Wittlich to the Dreis exit. Turn left and follow the signs to Wittlich. Stay on L-46 for about 3 kilometers until you get to an intersection with traffic lights. Turn right. Take the next left and follow the signs to the KartBahn track, which is in a large red building. The address is Industriegebiet II, Otto-Hahn-Strasse.

The Wittlich track is open Tuesday through Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. The track can be rented for parties. Childrens birthday parties are often held here, according to the staff. A small pub is also available.

More information in German and also directions may be obtained at 06571-9694-94 or from [www.karthalle-wittlich.de](http://www.karthalle-wittlich.de).



## Charitable volksmarch

Spangdahlem members are invited to join Spangdahlem and Pickliessem townspeople on a charity walk Sunday at 9:30 a.m. The march begins at the Pickliessem town house and ends there at noon. Registration fee is 1.50 euro. Funds raised benefit construction projects to help the homeless in South India.